REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton

FOR THE YEAR 1965,

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Telephone No.
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Public Health Department,
8, East Street,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1965,

E. WILLIAMS
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

L.W. EVES,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector

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REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District of South Molton, for the year 1965.

Your obedient Servant,
E. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of:—

Part-time Officers—

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

G. E. MOGFORD, M.A.P.H.I., (up to March, 1965)

D. J. BYRON, M.A.P.H.I., (as from June, 1965)

G. T. HILL, M.A.P.H.I.,
Additional Public Health Inspectors.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area of acres	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate)	8,430
Rateable Value as at 1.4.65	£126,564
Product of a Penny Rate (Year 1965/6)	£482
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at 1.4.1966) ...	2868
Number of Council Houses	419
Extracts from Vital Statistics:—	
Births: Comparability Factor	1.19
Deaths	0.89

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—	
Number	132
Rate per 1,000 population	15.65
,, ,, Adjusted	18.62
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	7·572
Still Births:—	
Number	5
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	36.5
Total Live and Still Births	137
Infant Deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	Nil
Infant Mortality Rates:—	
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Total Live Births	Nil
Legit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legit. Live Births	Nil
Illegit. Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegit. Live Births	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 Total Live Births)	Nil
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Total Live Births)	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	36.50
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):—	
Number of Deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	Nil
Deaths	100
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	11.86
,, ,, Adjusted	10.55

POPULATION FIGURES SINCE 1950

	Population	Live Births	Deaths
1950	9038	161	100
1951	9207	124	117
1952	9141	137	108
1953	9063	133	94

1954	9050	116	89
1955	9030	115	95
1956	8920	118	104
1957	8850	141	84
1958	8840	125	95
1959	8800	116	113
1960	8780	114	111
1961	8220	126	98
1962	8400	135	93
1963	8410	116	93
1964	8430	124	94
1965	8430	132	100

BIRTHS

During the year there were 132 live births in the Rural area as compared with 124 in 1964. There were 70 males and 62 female births.

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	67	55	122
Illegitimate	3	7	10
		Total ...	132

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.65
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)	18.62

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	0	5	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
		Total ...	5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births ...	36.5

DEATHS

During the year there were 100 deaths, of which 51 were males and 49 females.

Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.86
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)	10.55

The following table gives the Causes of Death:—

	M.	F.	Total
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	1	0	1
,, ,, —Lung, Bronchus ...	6	0	6
,, ,, —Breast	0	4	4
,, ,, —Uterus	0	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	6	6	12
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	5	11	16
Coronary Disease, Angina	11	6	17
Hypertension with Heart Disease	0	1	1
Other Heart Disease	8	8	16
Other Circulatory Disease	5	1	6
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	3	2	5
Bronchitis	2	0	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	0	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	0	0	0
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	0	1	1
Congenital Malformations	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	0	0
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...	1	5	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	0	0	0
All Other Accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	0	0	0
Homicide and Operation of War	0	0	0
Total ...	51	49	100

Deaths in age groups:—

Under 4 weeks ...	0	35 — 44 years ...	7
4 weeks—1 year ...	0	45 — 54 ,, ...	6
1 — 4 years ...	1	55 — 64 ,, ...	12
5 — 14 ,, ...	0	65 — 74 ,, ...	22
15 — 24 ,, ...	0	75 + ,, ...	52
25 — 34 ,, ...	0		

Infant Mortality Rate

During the year no infant died under the age of 1 year, giving an Infant Mortality rate of Nil.

Maternal Mortality

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

Cancer Deaths

There were 25 deaths due to Cancer during the year as compared with 19 for the previous year. There were Six deaths due to lung cancer (4 in 1964)

	M.	F.	Total
Stomach Cancer	1	0	1
Lung and Bronchus Cancer	6	0	6
Breast	0	4	4
Uterus	0	2	2
Other Cancers	6	6	12
			25

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 35 infectious disease notifications were received, thirty of these being measles.

One case of malaria was reported. This was a school boy who initially contacted the disease abroad, and who had a relapse.

One case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred. This was a girl of 10 years. All close contacts were examined for evidence of infection.

The following Table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register on 1st January and 31st December, 1965.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1st January, 1965 ...	9	16	25	7	6	13
31st December, 1965	9	14	23	7	7	14

Age Groups	Malaria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Tuberculosis Pul.	Tuberculosis Non-Pul.
Under 1 year	—	2	—	—	—
1 +	—	4	1	—	—
2 +	—	5	1	—	—
3 +	—	2	—	—	—
4 +	—	6	—	—	—
5 — 9	—	7	1	—	—
10 — 14	1	3	—	1*	—
15 — 24	—	1	—	—	—
25 — 44	—	—	—	—	—
45 — 64	—	—	—	—	—
65 +	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1	30	3	1	Nil

Pulmonary T.B. 1 Female, 10, Rose Ash.
1 Malaria (recurrent) contracted W. Africa

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the North Devon Water Board extended their mains from Bishopsnympton to Bish Mill . 53 dwellings and 30 farms were connected to the mains.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (Section 47)

No cases were dealt with under this Act during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Tuberculosis

All Tuberculous patients until March 1963 were treated at the Hawley Hospital, Barnstaple. The decline in the number of T.B. patients has, as a result, led to the closure of the hospital, all patients are now being admitted to Hawkmoor Hospital.

Maternity Cases

There is a ward of 14 beds with a fully qualified staff at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, available for maternity cases of doubt and difficulty.

Three beds are also set aside for maternity cases in the South Molton and District Cottage Hospital.

The General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is at "Highfield," Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

Cases are sent either to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter, or to the Kingsley Hospital which is situated just outside the Borough of Bideford, and is well equipped in every way for the treatment of Infectious Diseases; there are 20 beds available in cubicles for Infectious cases.

Smallpox

The Smallpox Hospital, to which cases of Smallpox will be sent is at Upton Pine. Telephone to Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, 67158, and this is the same number for the ambulance.

General

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in the Borough of South Molton, serves this area. There are 9 beds for general and maternity cases. The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, also serves the area and provides Specialists' Services.

In South Molton there are also chronic sick patients at Beech House, but no further admissions are being made.

Clinic and Treatment Centres

CHEST CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Below is a table giving the days and times of attendance.

Tuesday	9 a.m.—1 p.m. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
Thursday	9 a.m.—1 p.m. 2 p.m.—4 p.m.	
Friday	9 a.m.—1 p.m. 2 p m.—4 p.m.	A.P. Refills

V.D. CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Times and days are as below for the sessions:—

FEMALES—Monday 4.00 p.m. Thursday 4.30 p.m.

MALES— Monday 5.15 p.m. Thursday 5.45 p.m.

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 2 District Nurse Midwives in the area.

Laboratory Facilities

The main Laboratory is situated at Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of water and milk are also carried out. The service is extremely valuable and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75, Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. There is a Blood Bank at this Laboratory.

Infant Welfare Centre

Held Thursday afternoons between 2.00 and 4.30 p.m. at 99, East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal Clinic

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 99, East Street.

Junior Training Centre—Abbeyfield, Barnstaple.

This centre provides training facilities for mentally handicapped children between the ages of 5 and 16. Hostel accommodation is also provided for children who may live some distance away from the centre.

Adult training Centre.

A new adult training centre for the North Devon area, expected to be opened in 1966 for the training of handicapped adults. This centre also has hostel accommodation.

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The districts served are South Molton Borough and South Molton Rural District. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the Hospital, by the doctor concerned, and the ambulance service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

I desire to thank the Clerk and the Public Health Inspectors for the help they have given me.

E. WILLIAMS

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA

For the Year ended 31st December, 1965

8, East Street,
South Molton.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1965

During the year 2,621 visits and inspections were made including:—

Public Health—	
Byelaws	309
Camping Sites	15
Disinfections and Disinfestations ...	2
Drains inspected and tested	145
General	6
Infectious Disease	0
Nuisances	19
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	17
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	231
Water Supplies	23
Water Samples	18
Town and Country Planning Acts	113
Food and Drugs—General	14
Meat and Food Inspection	229
Factories—With Power	-
Without Power	-
Housing—Slum Clearance, Housing Acts, Rent Act	40
Council Houses in Course of Erection Housing Sites and Council House Supervision, etc.	552
Improvement Grants	109
Petroleum Regulations	10
Interviews—Owners, Builders, etc.	325
Meetings	67
Public Conveniences	293
Waste Foods	4
Shops Act	8
Miscellaneous	69
Street Lighting...	3
	2,621

WATER

	No. of Houses supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Population so served	No. of Houses supplied by Standpipe on Public Mains	Estimated Population so served
Anstey East ...	25	72	—	—
Anstey West ...	19	54	—	—
Bishopsnympton ...	133	330	1	2
Buckland East ...	10	21	—	—
Buckland West ...	56	166	—	—
Burrington ...	62	200	—	—
Charles (Brayford)	39	119	—	—
Chittlehamholt ...	52	161	—	—
Chittlehampton ...	173	650	—	—
Cheldon	1	4	—	—
Chulmleigh ...	320	870	2	8
Creacombe ...	1	3	—	—
Filleigh	52	175	—	—
Georgenympton ...	33	110	—	—
Kingsnympton ...	78	216	1	3
Knowstone ...	28	84	—	—
Mariansleigh ...	56	135	—	—
Meshaw	27	67	—	—
Molland	3	3	—	—
North Molton ...	227	690	1	3
Queensnympton ...	4	14	—	—
Rackenford ...	56	164	—	—
Romansleigh ...	21	70	—	—
Rose Ash	44	130	—	—
Satterleigh and Warkleigh ...	16	45	—	—
Witheridge ...	234	675	4	13
Worlington East	67	240	—	—

21 Samples of Private Supplies were taken with the results as shown: —

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory	—	6
Unsatisfactory	—	15

Bacteriological Samples of Public Supplies are now discontinued.

Where the Private Water Supplies were found to be unsatisfactory, informal action was taken to have the matters remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agricuture, Fisheries and Food.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Little progress has been made with the outstanding schemes for Romansleigh, Burrington and Meshaw. Witheridge sewage disposal works will be enlarged.

The existing disposal works were maintained satisfactorily.

HOUSING

During the year 48 houses were improved under the Standard Grant Scheme and 11 under the Discretionary Grant Scheme.

Twentyfour private houses, 14 Council Bungalows were erected during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

(a) The number of food premises in this area, by type of business is:—

Bakehouses	7
Butchers' Shops	7
Cafes and Restaurants	1
Confectioners	2
Fish and Chip Shops	2
Fishmongers	0
Greengrocers	0
Grocers and Provision Dealers	39
Guest Houses	4
Public Houses, Hotels	25
Dairies	4

(b) Eight premises are registered for the manufacture or preparation of preserved food.

Thirty-two premises are registered for the sale and storage intended for sale of ice-cream.

Four premises are registered as dairies.

(c) All condemned food is disposed of at the Council's refuse tip under supervision.

(d) Food Hygiene Regulations 1960

Fourteen visits of inspection were made to food premises. Improvements and compliance with the regulations were secured.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The two licensed slaughterhouses continued in regular use during the year, all of them being satisfactorily maintained. All meat killed was inspected and it was necessary to condemn 16 cwt. 2 qrt. 22 lbs. of carcase meat and 11 cwt. 2 qrt. 8 lbs. of offal.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1961

No action was necessary under the above-mentioned Acts during the year.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	336	Nil	694	863	Nil
Number Inspected	336	Nil	694	863	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	1	Nil	4	2	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	86	Nil	62	83	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	25.9%	Nil	9.54%	9,85%	N.A.
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	41	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	4.75%	N.A.
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil